

Instrumentation

Design

Laboratory

Tales from
the Olden Days
to the Present

Custom Instrumentation
to meet scientific & engineering challenges

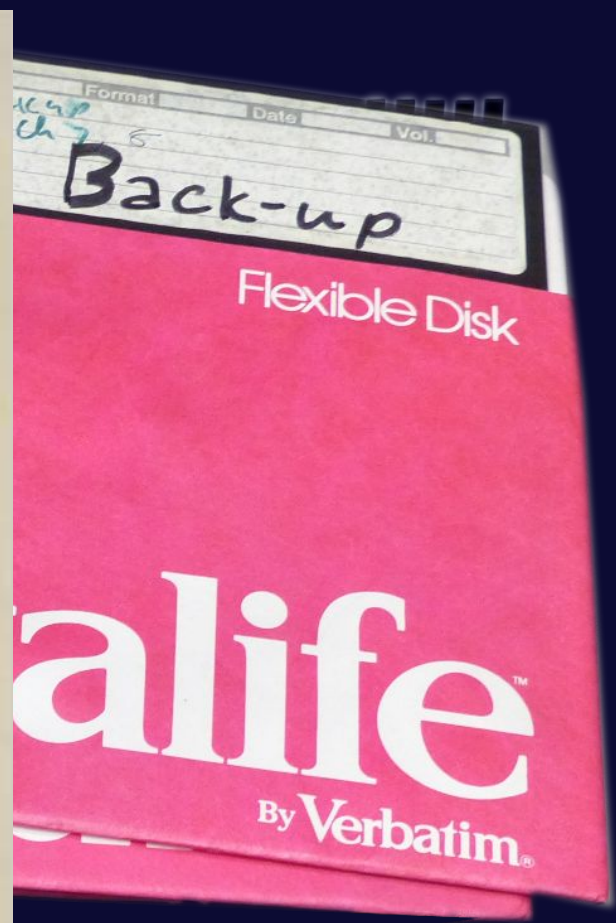
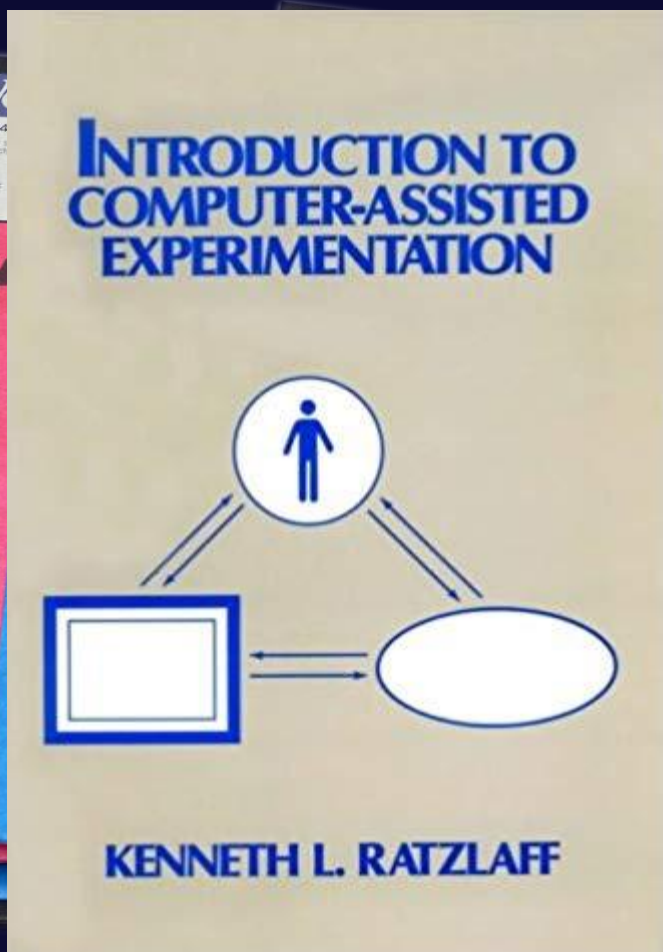
Design Data Acquisition & Control Embedded Systems User Interfaces Communication Remote Sites

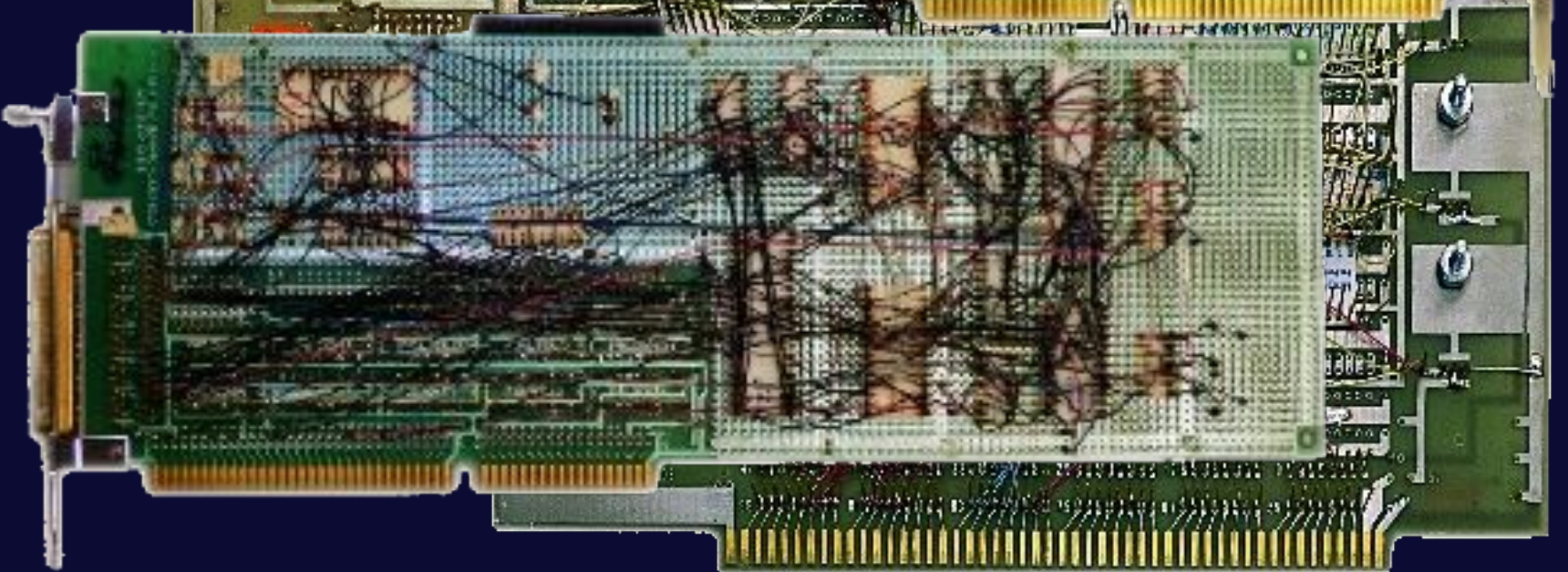
Ken Ratzlaff

KU INSTRUMENTATION
DESIGN LABORATORY
The University of Kansas

1981: Where were we?







The Real Challenge!

- Needed permission from Topeka for every bit of computer equipment!
- Bidding – everything over \$50
- Cables: purchased through some FO office.

STATE OF KANSAS



DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
Division of Information Systems and Computing

JOHN CARLIN,
Governor
JERRY MAGNUSON,
Director

82-7123

Room 1152-W
State Office Building
Topeka, Kansas 66612
(913) 296-3343

May 4, 1982

Kenneth L. Ratzlaff, Director
Instrumentation Design Laboratory
Department of Chemistry
The University of Kansas
Lawrence, KS 66045

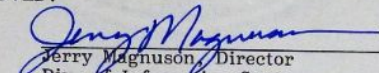
Dear Mr. Ratzlaff:

Permission is granted to The University of Kansas to acquire a single-board microcomputer with a full keyboard, thermal printer, 20 character alphanumeric display, and a monitor in read-only memory.

It is our understanding this equipment will be used by the Department of Chemistry to directly support course work experiments in your Department's Chemistry 711 course and will be used for data acquisition, control, and assembly language and BASIC language training for students.

The acquisition of this equipment must be handled through the Division of Purchases in accord with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations of the State of Kansas. A copy of this letter should accompany all materials sent to the Division of Purchases in order to be approved by the Director of Purchases.

APPROVED:


Jerry Magnuson, Director
Div. of Information Systems and Computing

JM:rt

cc: Gene Puckett, KU
Jerome Niebaum, KU
Director of Accounts and Reports
Chief Auditor of Accounts and Reports
Director of Budget
Director of Purchases

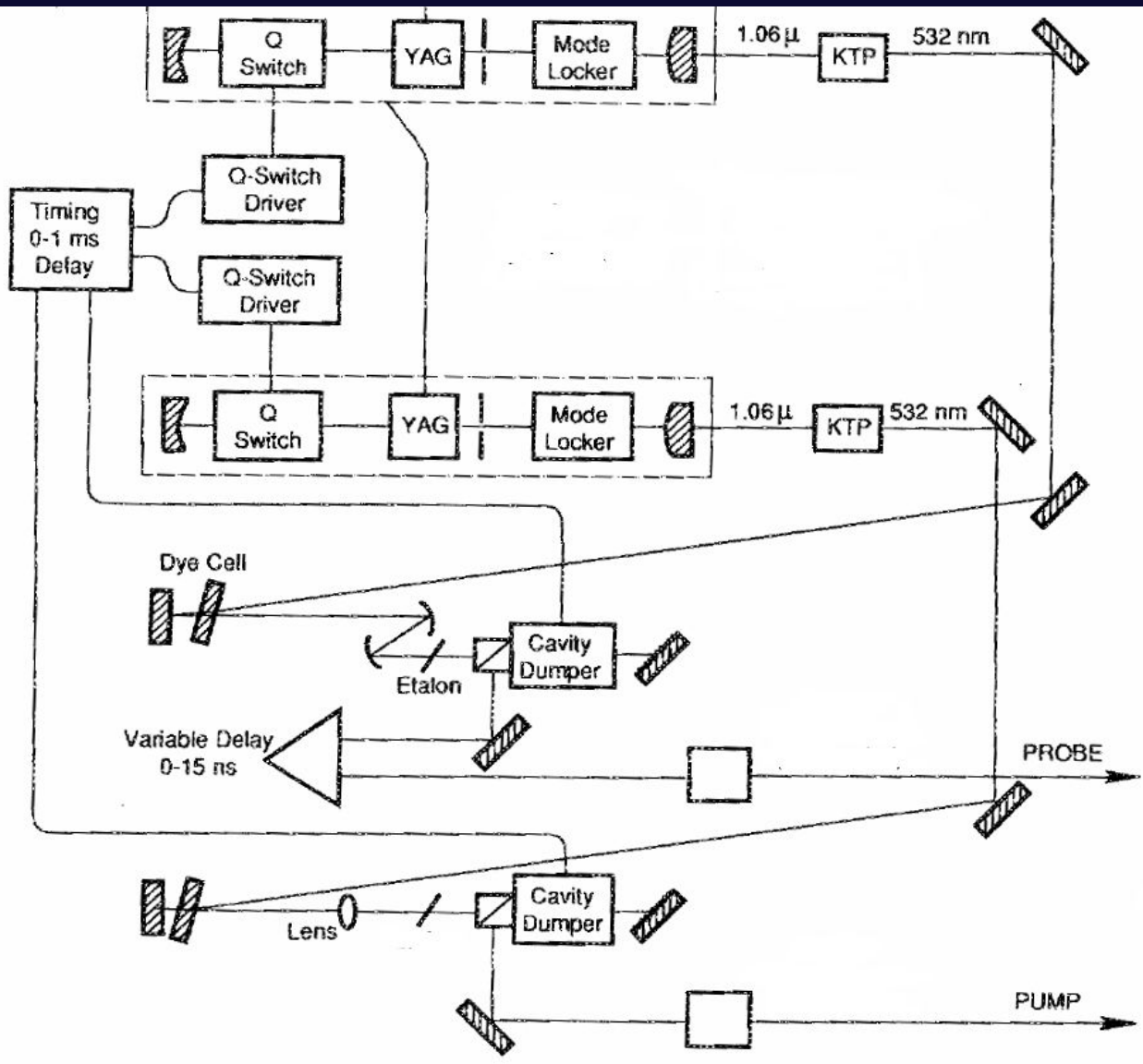
First orders of business

- Hire a programmer: **Tom Peters**, a veteran of Paul Gilles' lab. Enjoyed programming in C and studying Sabermetrics.
- Look after old projects – brain chemistry and marmots.
- Looking after the burgeoning population of microcomputer users. Tom wrote HawkTalk. We designed printer-sharing devices, greek character capability . . .

Back to Lab electronics & computing

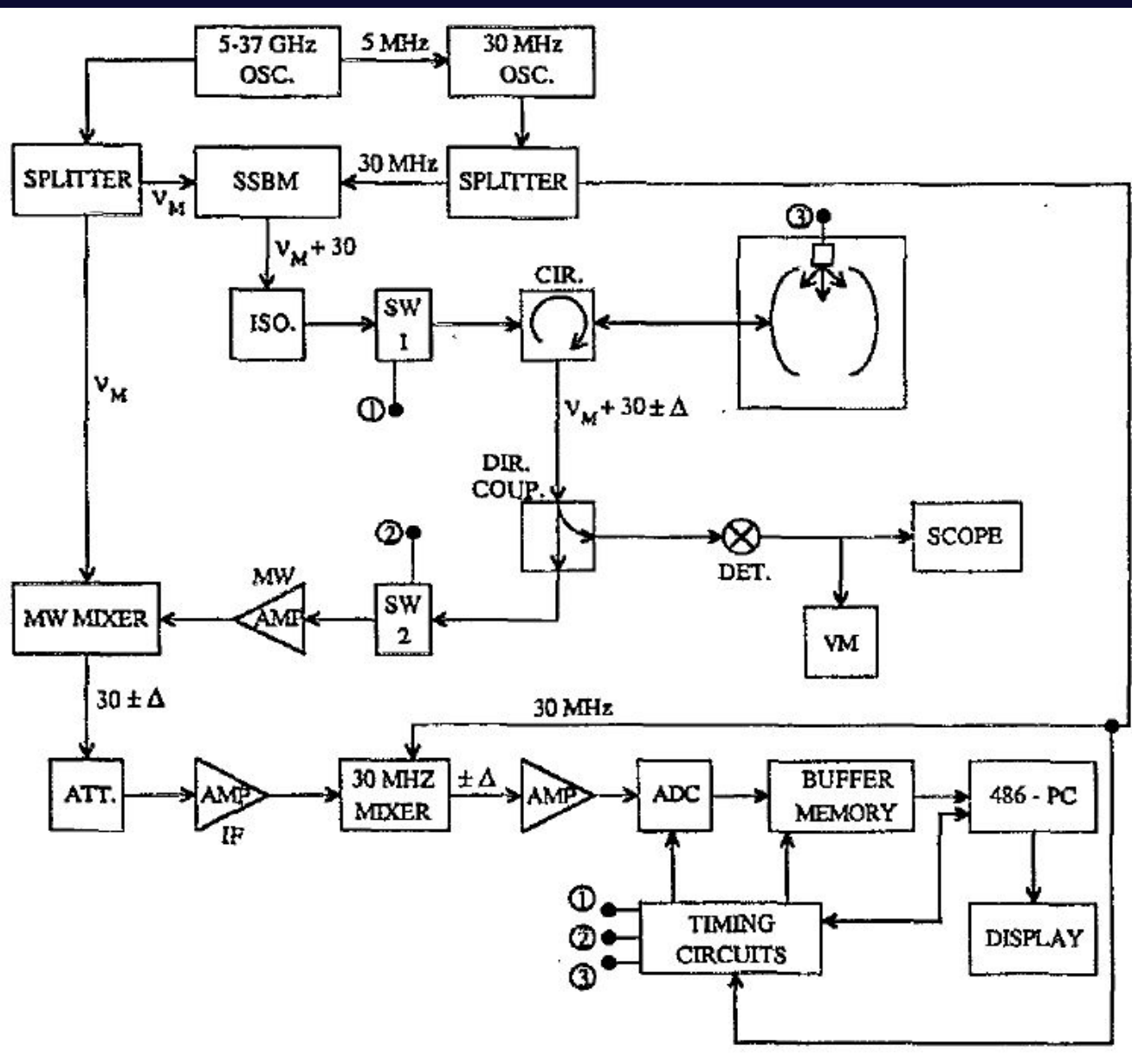
- Build data acquisition capability and then design our “Remote Interface Controller.” About 100 Hz with diverse inputs.
- Exercise Physiology Bike – Many digital and analog functions: rate, force, air volume, CO₂, O₂, heart rate, temperatures . . .
- Chromatography
- Craig Martin – Plant Physiology -- connected up ~ 15 different sensors at “slow rate.”

New kinds of challenges



Carey Johnson
Laser Lab

(1 picosecond =
0.000000000001
second)



Fourier
Transform
Microwave
Spectrometer

Marlin
Harmony Lab

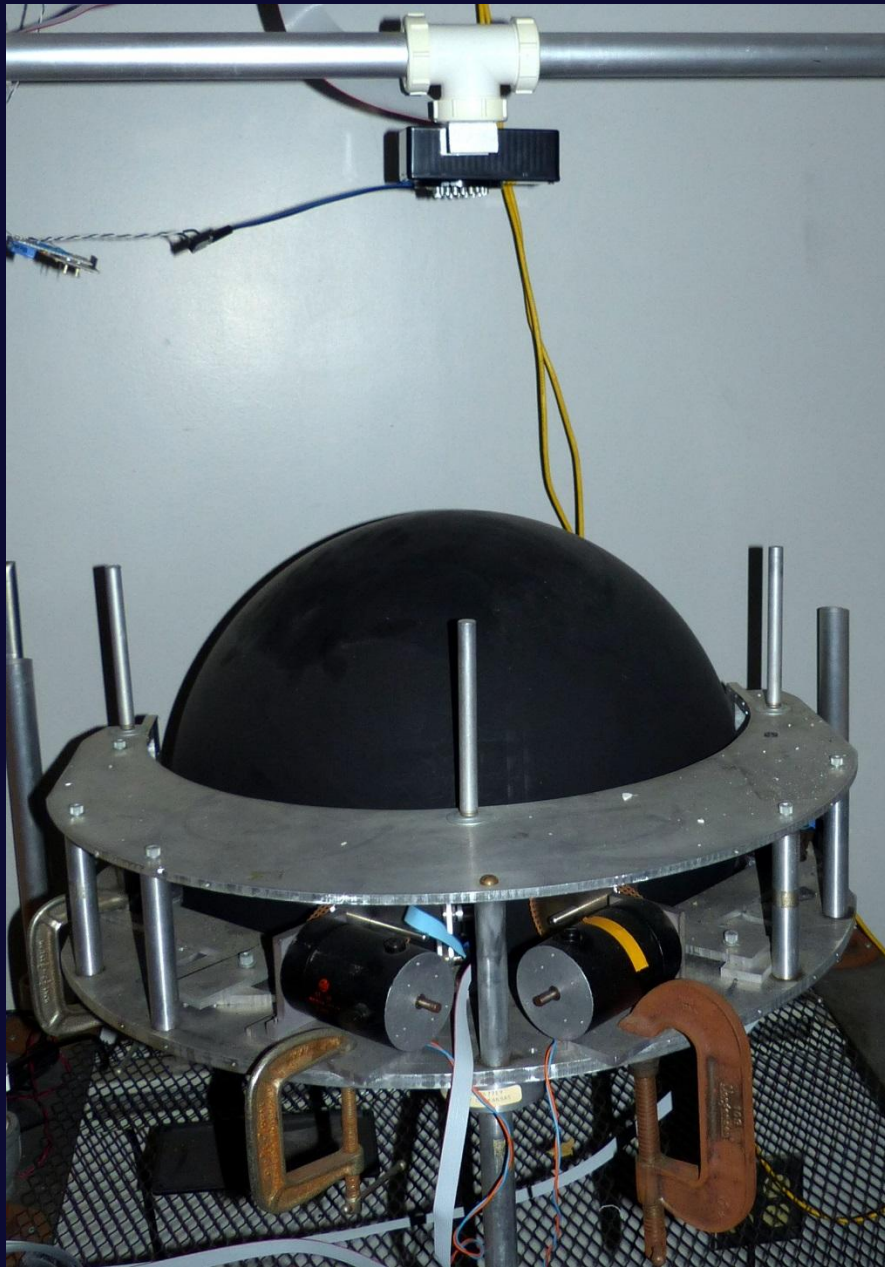
Other Evolutions

- Ric Roggero joined as a programmer. Also led us into desktop networking – servers, wiring, etc.
- Tom Peters left for Flint Hills Scientific – Epileptic Seizure analysis.
- Mike Gusick joined us, our first EE.

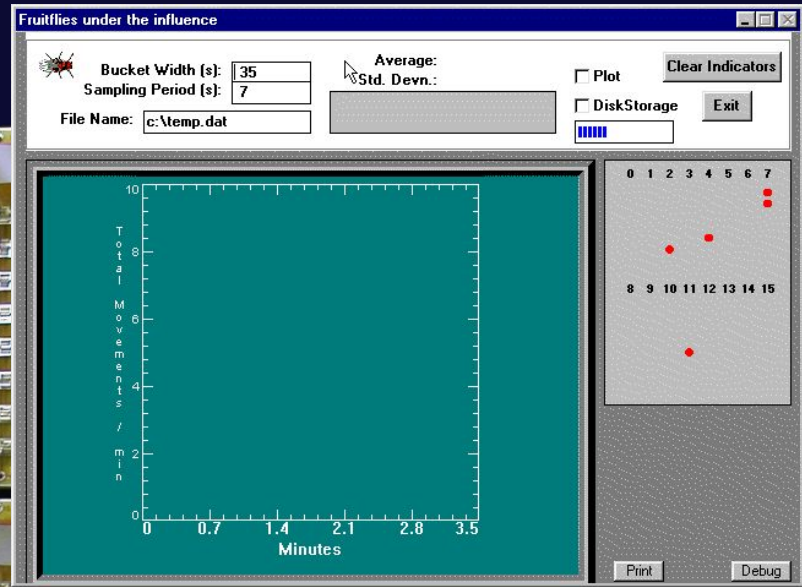
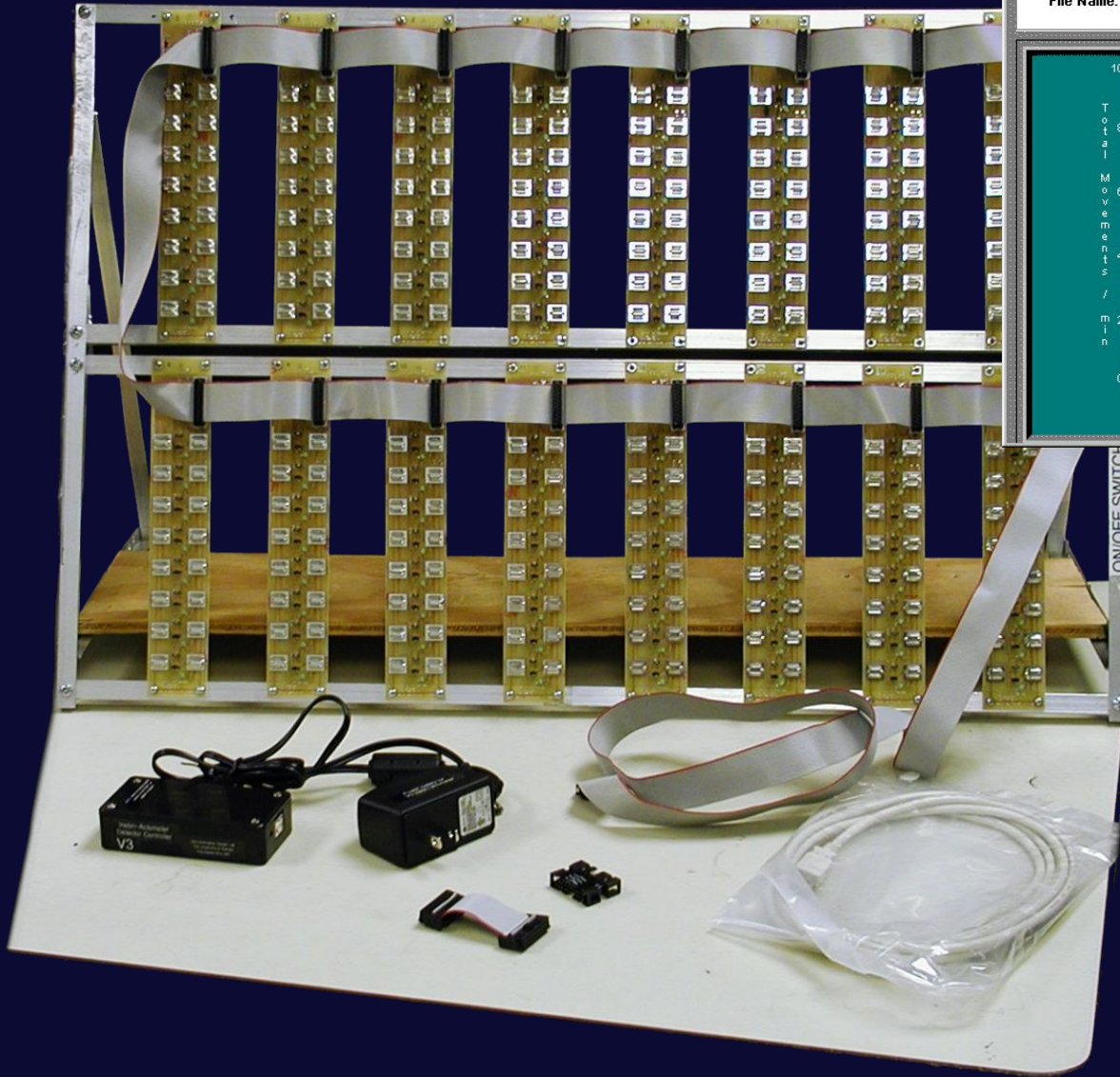
- Other capabilities “faster, stronger, better.”
 - New languages.
 - New ways to produce circuit boards.
 - USB.
 - Programmable Logic.
 - Single-chip processors – Arduinos, etc.
 - The Raspberry Pi.
 - Windows (“Win-doze”)
- Philosophical Changes in how instrumentation interacts with experiments.

Acceleration measurements on legless lizards with Haskell University.



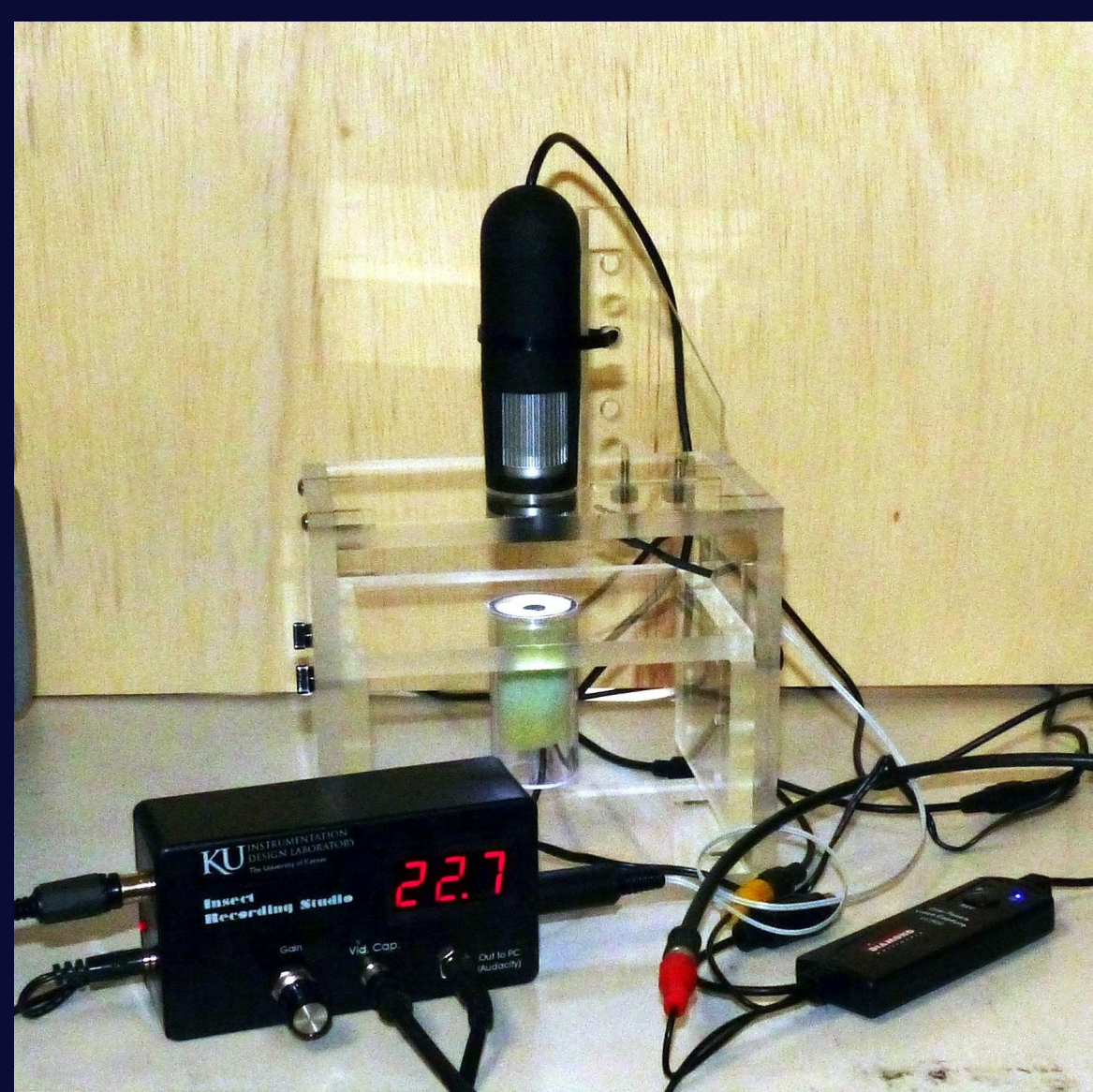


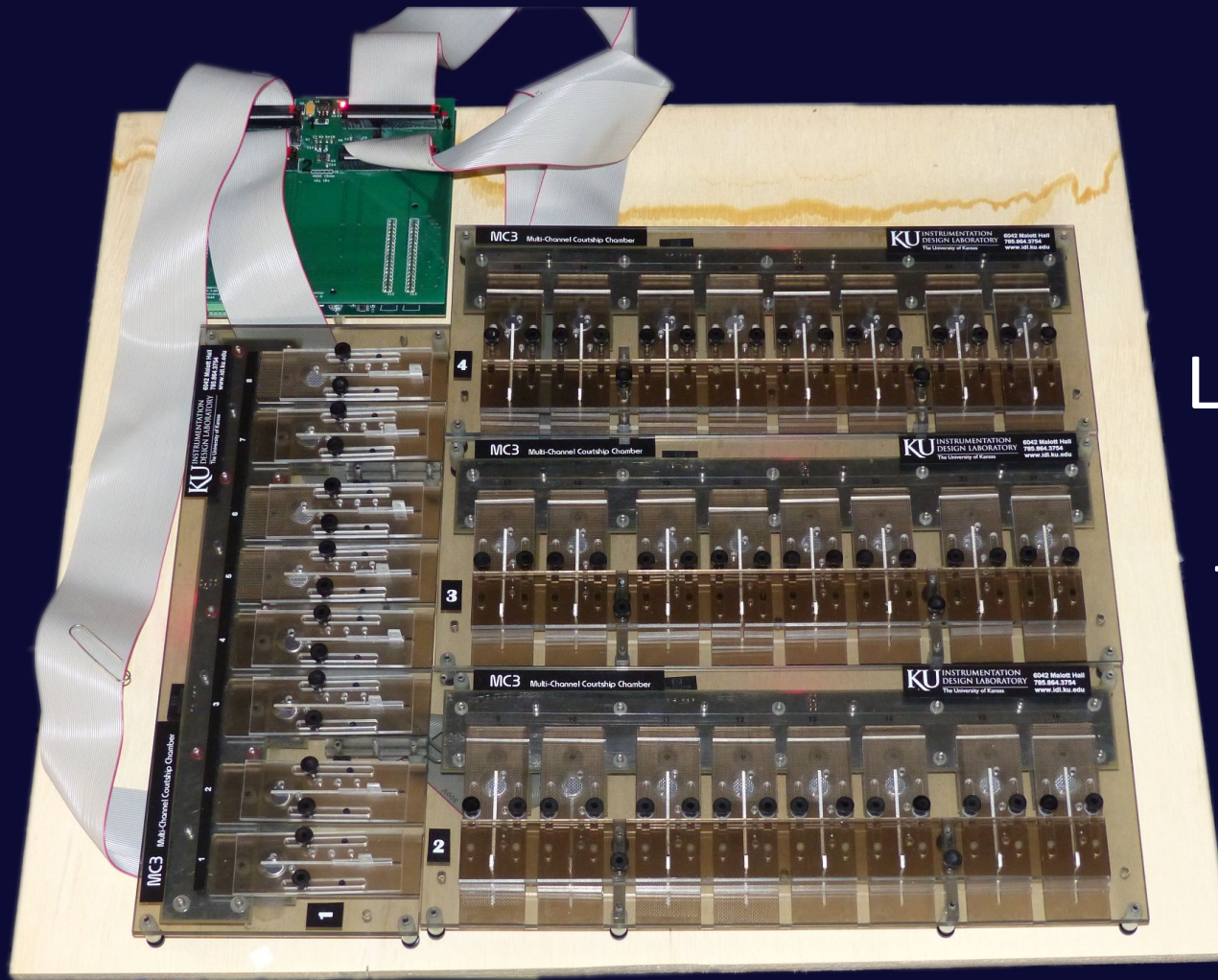
Servosphere: Crickets, moths, cockroaches. (Bill Bell, Mike Greenfield)



Inebri-actometer
measures fruitflies
getting drunk.

Watch and
listen to a
pair of horny
fruitflies.





Listen to 32
pairs of horny
fruitflies.

Firefly Simulator



Laurent Buschman, K-State

Now study flash patterns in horny fireflies.

FowlerPlot Files Setup Show Comms Help

Comms: X-Range: X0 - X1 X1 X0 X2 X2 - X0 Datum Number

100 4207 4307 4643 336

Save Datum X1: 4207 X0: 4307 X2: 4643

Cursor Lock On

Start ← Event message box → X-Axis Controls →

X-axis Datum Number

Control Cursor handle

Cursor Recorder

Y1 14.00

Graphing Window 1

Autoscale controls

Visible Range

Data Filename

Graphing Window 3

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FowlerView Files Settings Help

FPS: 30.16 7/27/2017 1:27:25 PM

FowlerPlot Data Position

FP/FV Communications

Video Offset

Video Clip Display

Position Data: 8075 ms

Video: 22155 ms

Frame #: 664

Communication: Send Receive Search

Video info: Size: 640 x 360 56284 frames

Video Frame Rate and Offset: 30.0 frames per second -14080 milliseconds offset

Clip Display: Requested Clip Display Rate (Ips): 10 Frames 9930 to 23430 Data: 316920 to 766920 ms Video 331000 to 781000 ms

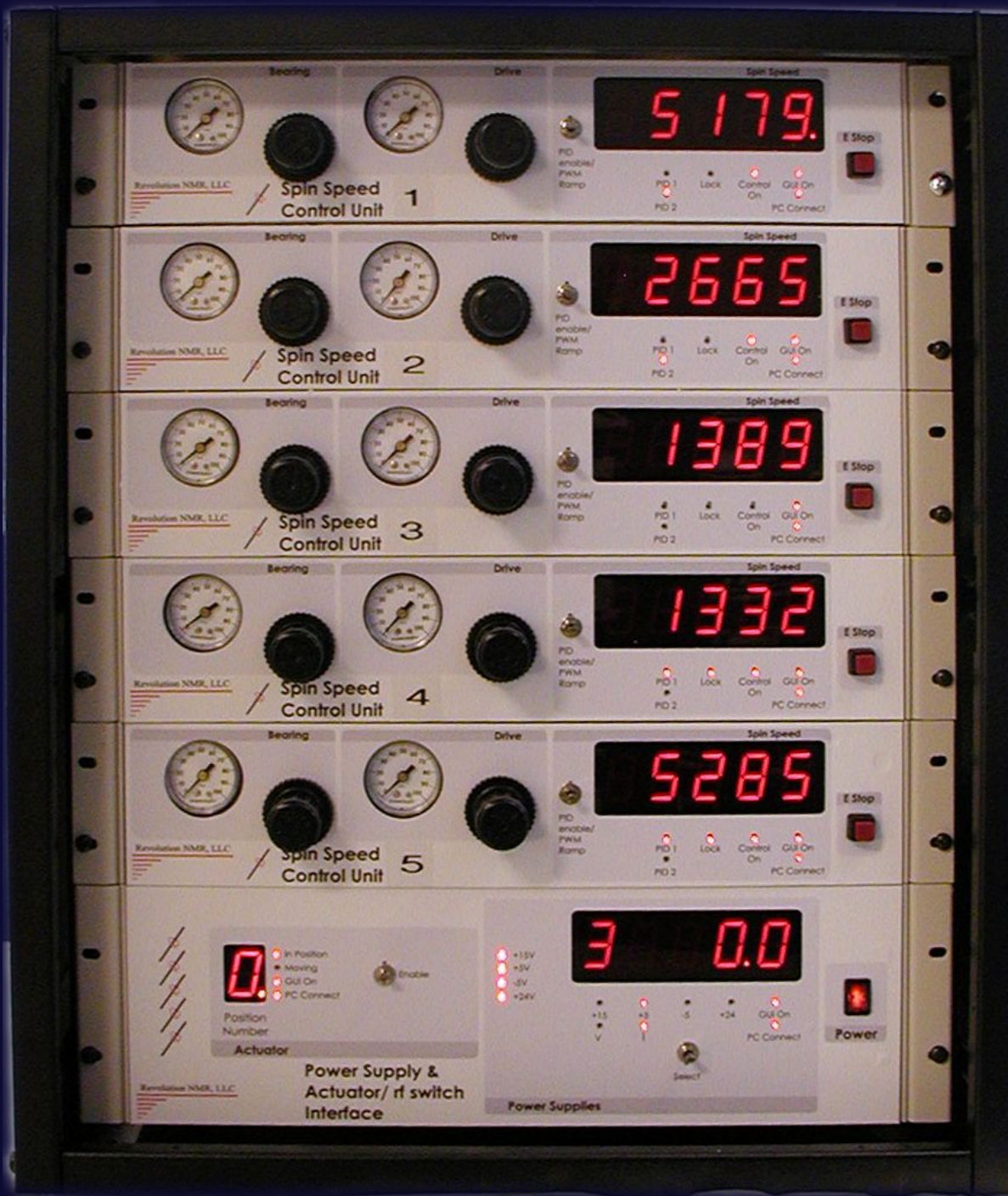
Show Clip

Click or Press: Frame Left (H) Frame Right (J) Start/Resume (K) Pause (L) Rewind (:)

Press and Hold: Forward 1.0 (T) Reverse 1.0 (Y) Forward 2.0 (U) Reverse 2.0 (I) Forward 5.0 (O) Reverse 5.0 (P)

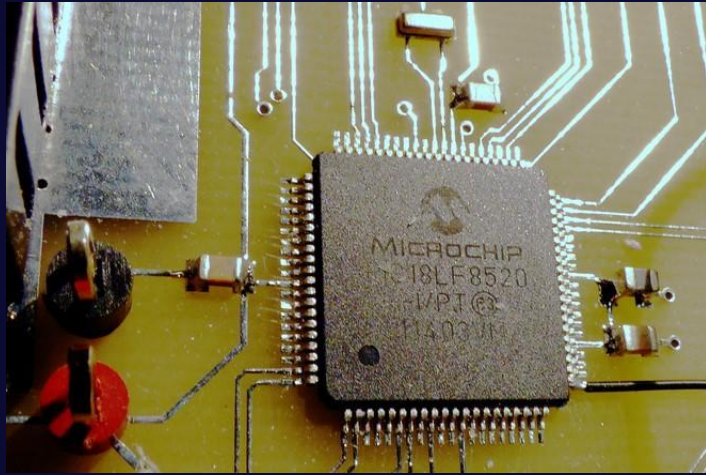
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Measure movement in rats & voles to study drug effects.

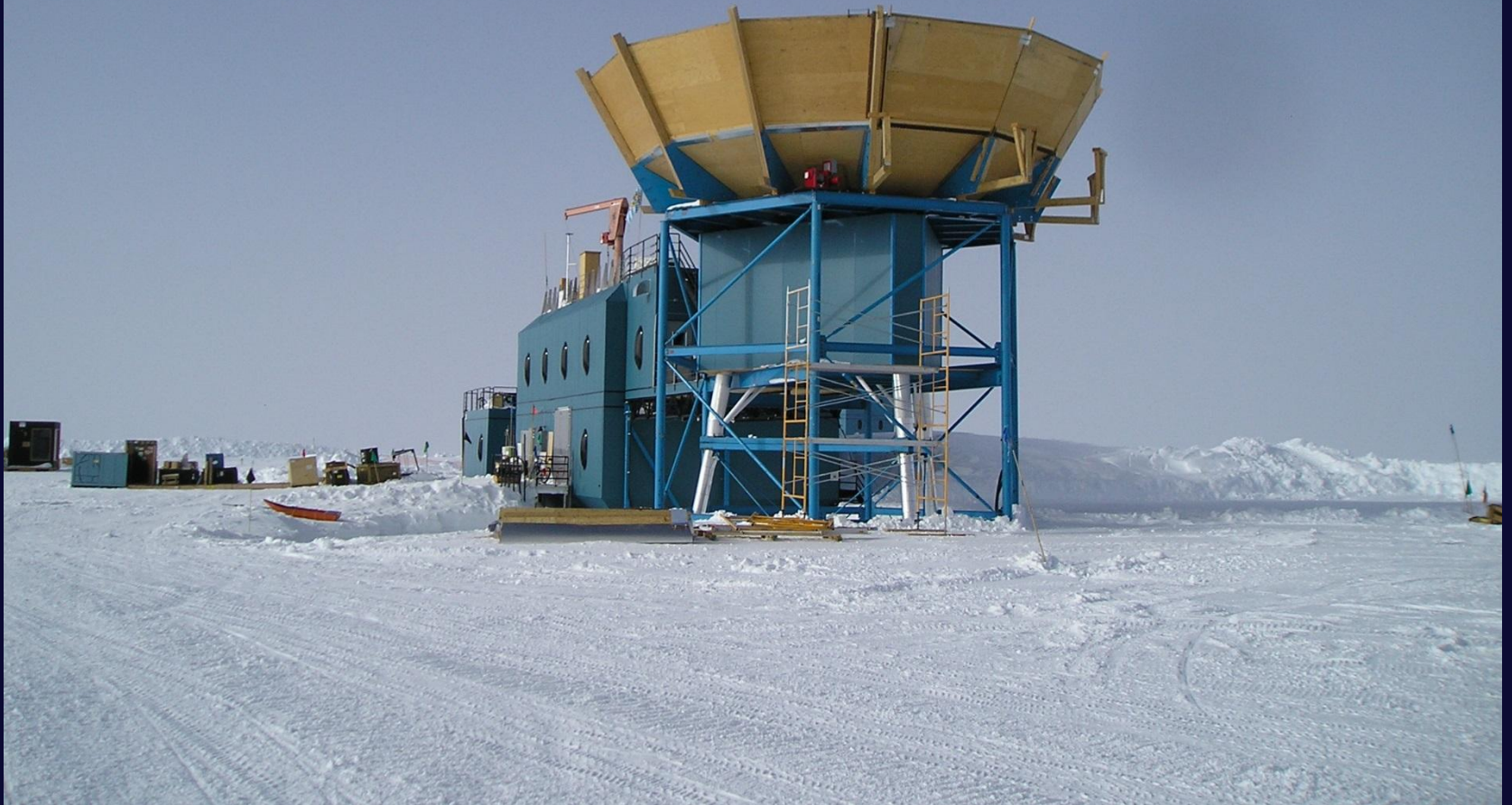


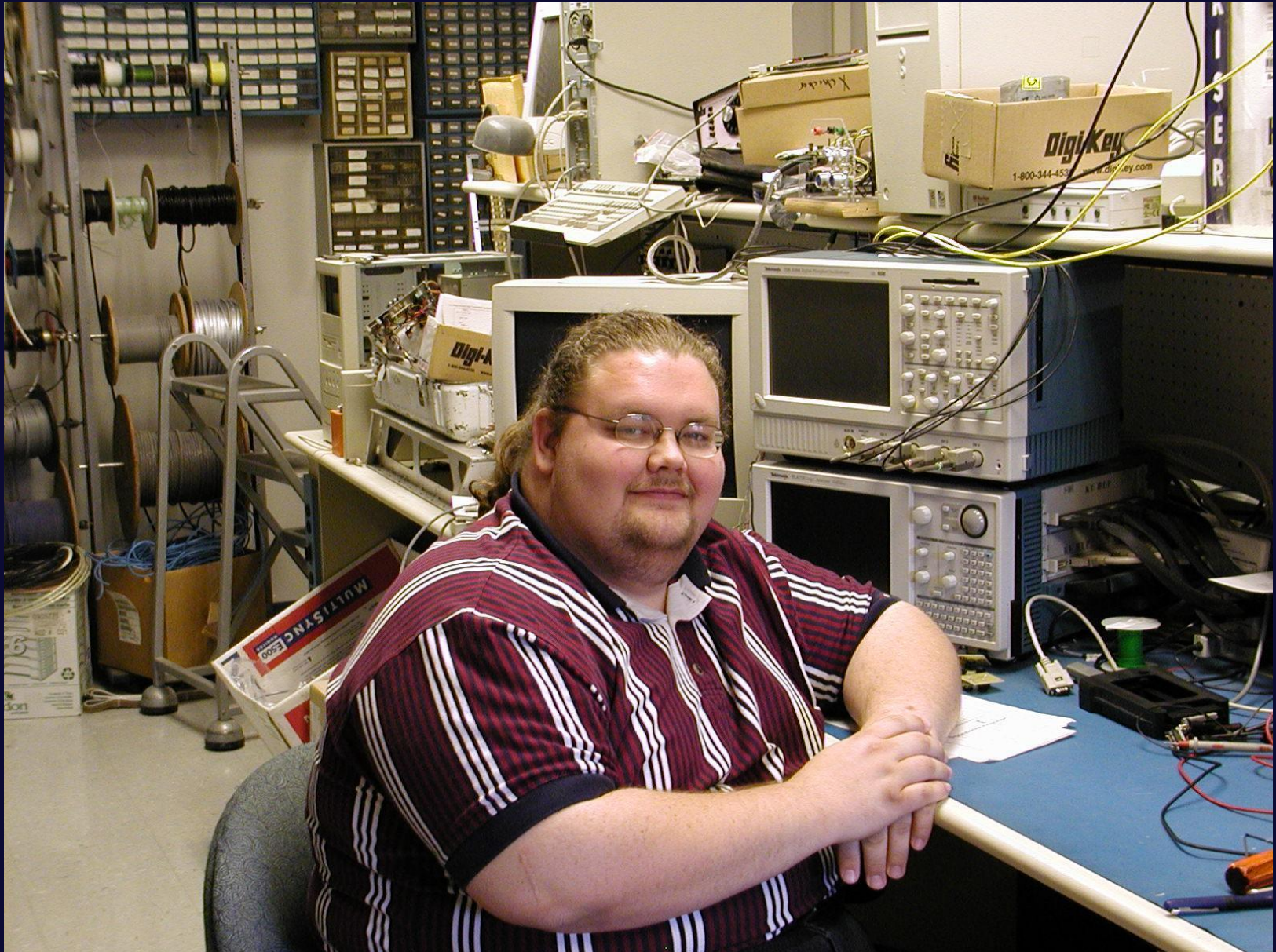
Eric Munson:
Multi-channel
Solid-State
NMR Spin
Controller

So many projects, so little time

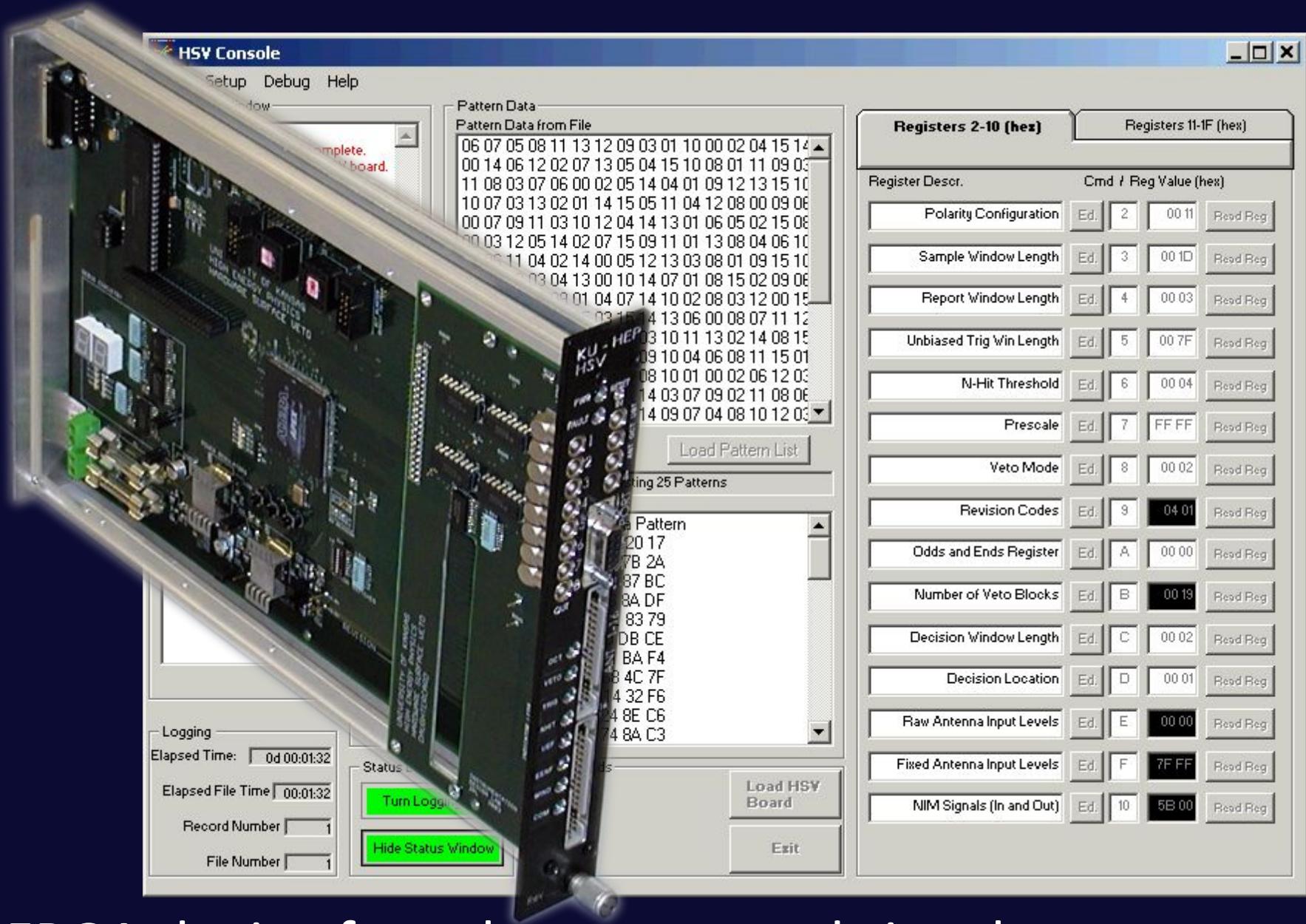


Radio Ice Cerenkov Experiment



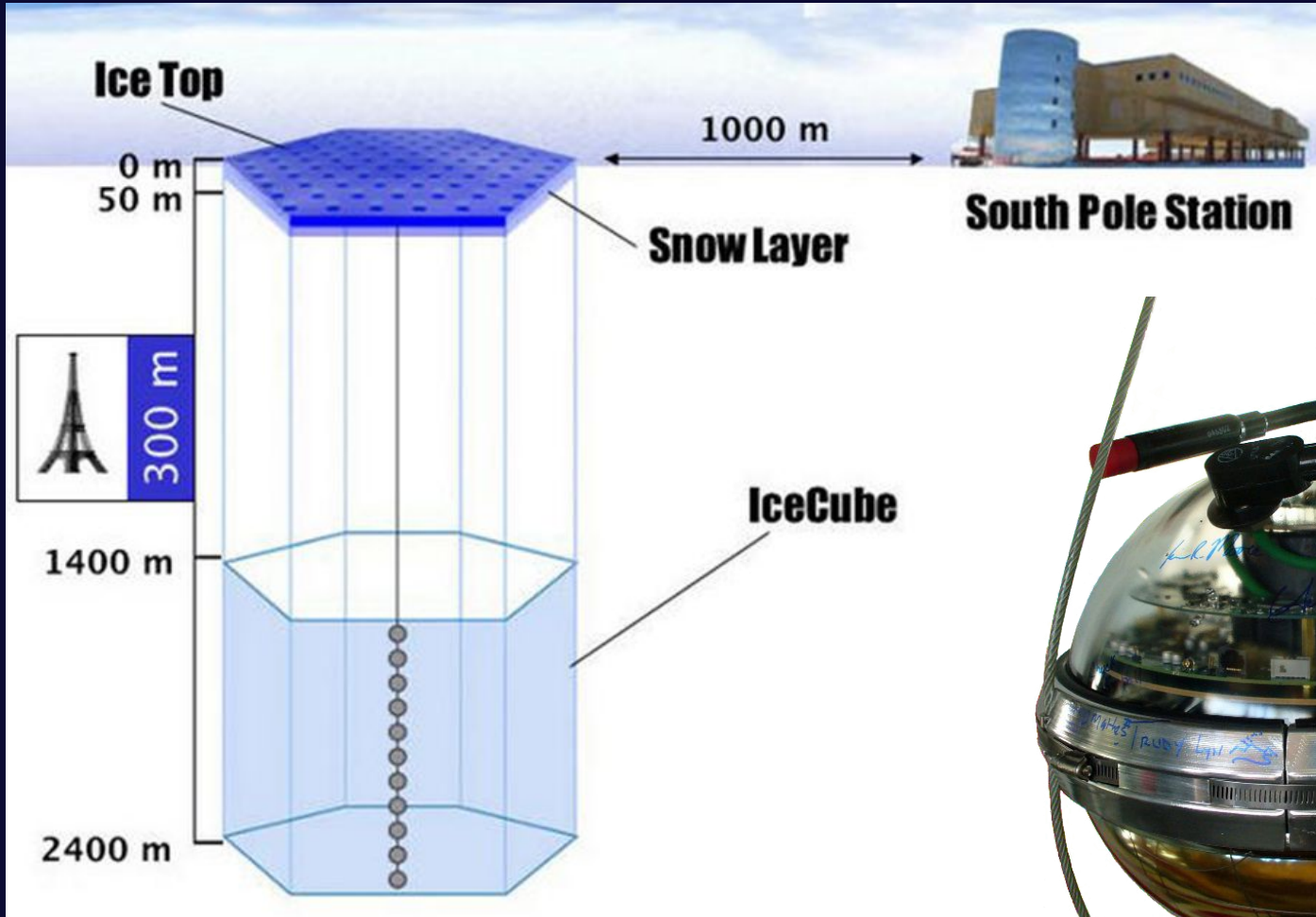


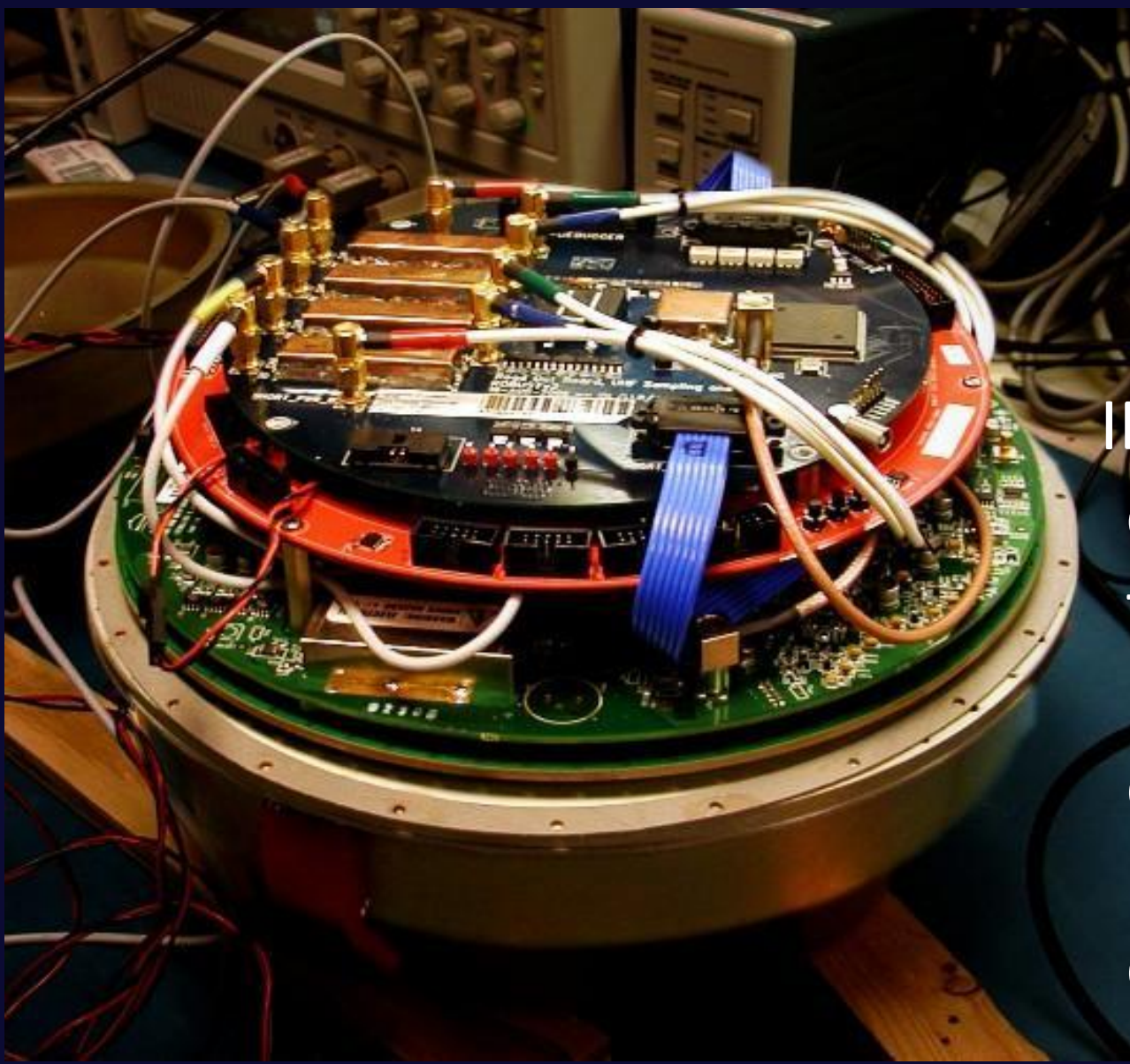
John brought amazing new capabilities to the IDL.



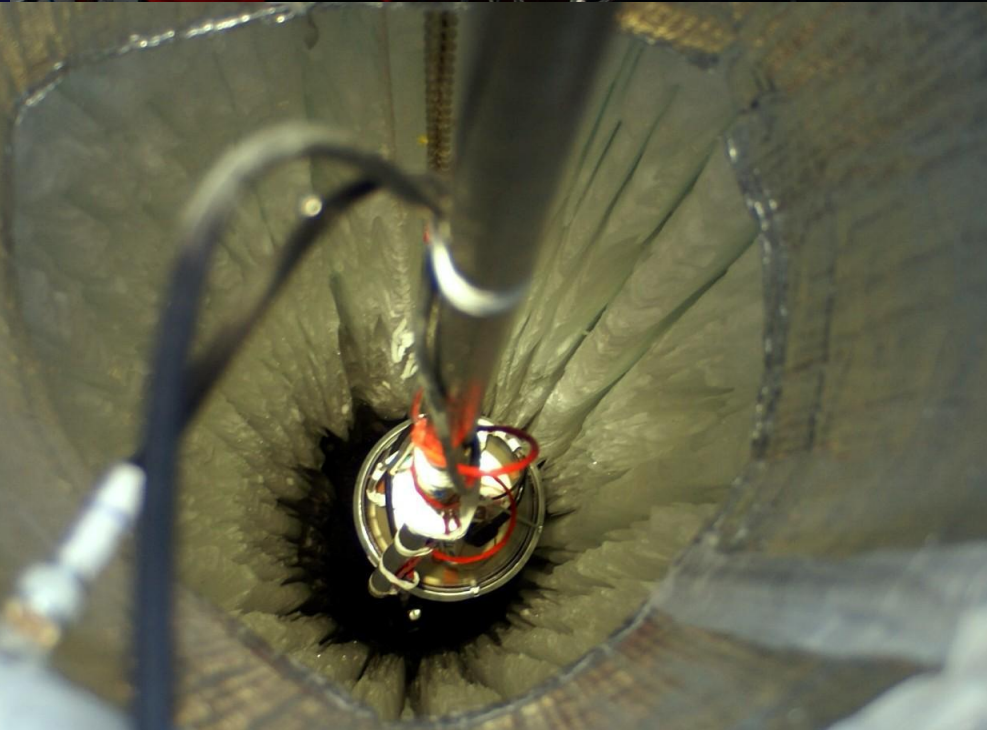
FPGA device for sub-nanosecond signal analysis.

Collaboration with the IceCube Experiment





IDL
collaborated
to develop the
DRM, a new
detector for
radio
detection of
neutrinos.



DRMs are deployed over
1400m deep in the
Antarctic ice.

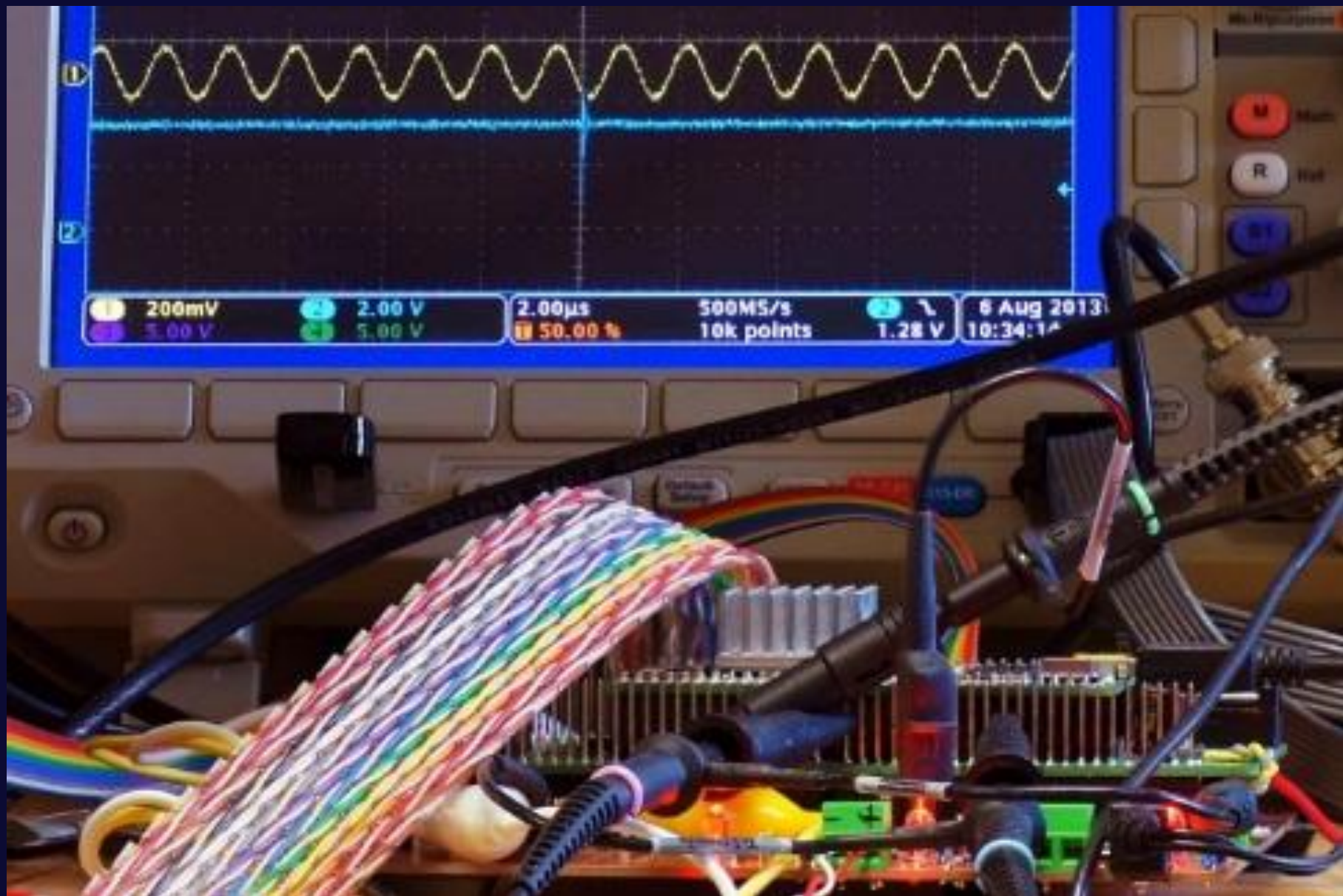


Rob Young, Senior Design Engineer

Rob also has amazing FPGA and
device development skills.

Other AstroParticle Projects



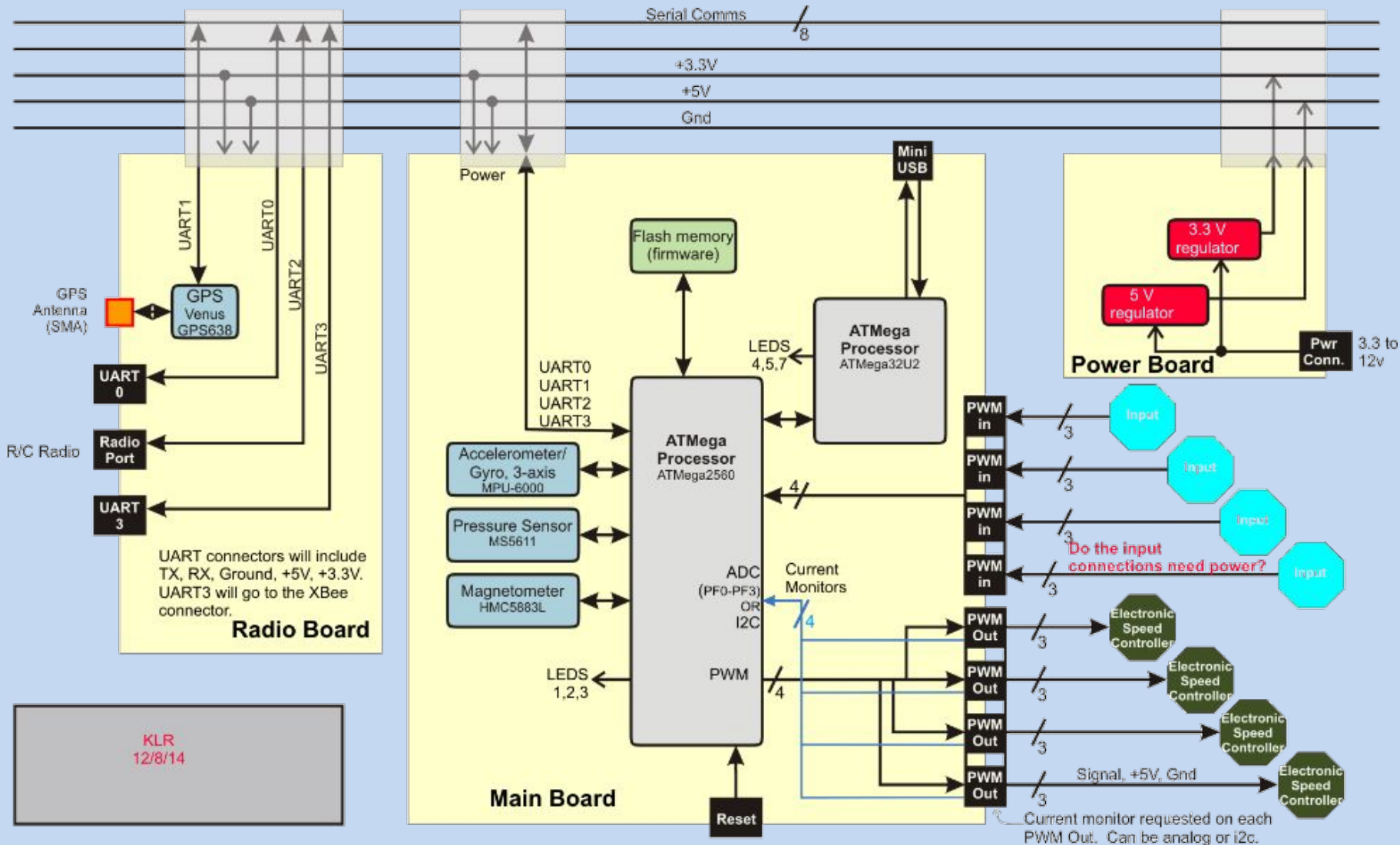


Chris Allen and Lei Shi (EECS)



Christian Hornhuber, Engineer

Autopilots





Instrumenting
a Red Bull
plane to
study pilot
actions.

It's been a great ride!

Thanks to all the great staff members of the IDL, to our collaborators at KU and around the world, to the people who provided support, and to those administrators who stayed out of the way.

And to friends and family.

